

RESOURCES PORTFOLIO

RECORD OF DECISIONS taken by the Resources Portfolio Cabinet Member, Councillor Hugh Mason, at his decision meeting held on Thursday 19 March 2009 at 4.00 pm in the Guildhall, Portsmouth.

Councillor David Horne (Opposition Spokesperson, Labour Group) and Officers were welcomed to the meeting by Councillor Mason.

6 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Luke Stubbs.

7 Declaration of Members' Interests in accordance with Standing Order No 14 (AI 1)

There were no declarations of interest.

8 Budget Monitoring 2008/09 – Revenue Cash Limit and Capital Programme (AI 2)

(TAKE IN REPORT)

Councillor Hugh Mason agreed to send Councillor Horne a very detailed breakdown of Landlords Maintenance in response to a query about where money saved from cuts was subsequently spent or saved.

HFF

DECISIONS:

(1) That the position regarding the revenue forecast for 2008/09 be noted.

(2) That the forecast capital programme expenditure be noted.

9 Support for Voluntary and Community Sector 2009/2010 (TAKE IN REPORT)

HDCE

Mandy Lindley, Partnerships Manager, introduced the report and asked that the Portfolio holder for Resources agree the allocations as set out in the Appendices. It was explained that it was hoped that the contract would be drawn up by the end of March but that there was still some outstanding information needed.

Councillor Hugh Mason said that the contract would set out the arrangements clearly and that performance monitoring could be carried out.

Councillor David Horne fully supported the move to gather all the information together to show who receives funding and from where.

DECISIONS:

- 1. the allocation of funding for 2009/10 (set out in appendices 1-6) be agreed**
- 2. the progress of the second stage of the Grants Review be agreed**
- 3. that the recommendation that council should not tender for the infrastructure support service at this time, but that a three year contract should be developed with Portsmouth Council for Community Service, subject to the successful negotiation of a service specification, be agreed**

10 Tell us Two Things Pilot – Oral Update

HoCS

The Head of Customer Services explained that if the Portfolio Holder for Resources agreed, it was intended to re-launch the Tell us Two Things staff suggestion programme, but organising it round the Efficiency Programme. The response from staff was very low when the Tell us Two Things was piloted but it is hoped that the re launch will give staff more opportunities to participate.

The response from members of the public has been greatest through Flagship magazine. There has been some useful feedback on matters such as the Seafront, COLAS and cycling on pavements. Positive comments have been received as well as negative.

In terms of the suggested way forward, the process needs to be better managed as it is too random at present. Feedback is not being captured corporately. There is a need for funding. There is a useful toolkit Talk Freely and Fiona White and Lou Wilders have put in a bid for funding to improve communications and if this is successful, there would be no need to ask for funding from Resources portfolio. It was agreed that a re launch of Tell us Two Things will take place internally and possible incentives are being looked at to encourage a good response from staff.

Lou Wilders agreed to provide a further report to Resources Portfolio at a future meeting to advise on progress.

DECISIONS:

- (1) The Verbal Update be noted**
- (2) The way forward be agreed**

The meeting closed at 4.25 pm.

.....
Councillor Hugh Mason
Cabinet Member for Resources

VP/cb – March 2009
res20090319m.doc